

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of configuring a printing device, said method comprising dynamically modifying printing device settings based an identifier in an incoming print job identifying a client submitting said print job.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
scanning data packets of said print job for said identifier;  
querying a database to obtain settings for said printing device associated with said identifier; and  
configuring said printing device according to said settings associated with said identifier.
3. The method of claim 2; wherein said querying a database comprises:  
determining a location associated with said identifier; and  
retrieving settings for said printing device associated with said location.
4. The method of claim 2, wherein said configuring said printing device occurs automatically when a print job is received.
5. The method of claim 2, wherein said scanning comprises searching header data for said identifier.
6. The method of claim 2, further comprising storing said identifier in printing device memory.
7. The method of claim 2, wherein said database is organized such that each identifier is associated with a set of printing device settings.

8. The method of claim 2, wherein said database is organized such that each identifier is associated with a client location and a set of printing device settings.
9. The method of claim 2, wherein said database is stored in printing device memory.
10. The method of claim 2, wherein said database is stored on a network server.
11. The method of claim 2, wherein said database is stored on a web server or Internet server.
12. The method of claim 2, further comprising requiring authentication to access said database.
13. The method of claim 8, wherein said database comprises a physical location corresponding to each identifier.
14. The method of claim 13, wherein said physical location comprises a room number or floor number.
15. The method of claim 1, wherein said identifier comprises an IP address.
16. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining a group to which said printing device belongs based on said identifier.
17. The method of claim 16, further comprising configuring said printing device according to settings specified for members of said group.
18. A printing device comprising:  
an input for receiving a print job; and

a print engine configured to produce a hardcopy from said print job;  
    wherein said printing device extracts an identifier from said print job and adjusts  
    printing device configuration settings based on said identifier.

19. The printing device of claim 18, further comprising a database associating  
    identifiers with printing device configuration settings.

20. The printing device of claim 18, further comprising a database associating  
    identifiers with printing device locations and printing device locations with printing device  
    configuration settings.

21. The printing device of claim 19, wherein said database is stored in a memory  
    unit of said printing device.

22. The printing device of claim 19, wherein said database is stored on a network  
    server.

23. The printing device of claim 19, wherein said database is stored on a web  
    server or Internet server.

24. The printing device of claim 18, further comprising a programmable controller  
    programmed to scan data packet headers for said identifier.

25. The printing device of claim 20, wherein said programmable controller is  
    programmed to query a database to obtain identification information associated with said  
    identifier.

26. The printing device of claim 20, wherein said programmable controller is  
    programmed to determine the source location of said data packet based on said identification  
    information.

27. The printing device of claim 18, further comprising an embedded web server.
28. The printing device of claim 18, further comprising a user interface.
29. A system for configuring a printing device, said system comprising:  
means for extracting an identifier from an incoming print job identifying a client  
submitting said print job; and  
means for dynamically modifying printing device settings based said identifier.
30. The system of claim 29, further comprising:  
means for scanning data packets of said print job for said identifier;  
means for querying a database to obtain settings for said printing device associated  
with said identifier; and  
means for configuring said printing device according to said settings associated with  
said identifier.
31. The system of claim 30, wherein said means for querying a database comprise:  
means for determining a location associated with said identifier; and  
means for retrieving settings for said printing device associated with said location.
32. The system of claim 30, wherein said means for configuring said printing  
device function automatically when a print job is received.
33. The system of claim 30, wherein said means for scanning comprises means for  
searching header data for said identifier.
34. The system of claim 30, further comprising means for storing said identifier in  
printing device memory.

35. The system of claim 30, wherein said database is organized such that each identifier is associated with a set of printing device settings.

36. The system of claim 30, wherein said database is organized such that each identifier is associated with a client location and a set of printing device settings.

37. The system of claim 30, wherein said database is stored in printing device memory.

38. The system of claim 30, wherein said database is stored on a network server.

39. The system of claim 30, wherein said database is stored on a web server or Internet server.

40. The system of claim 30, further comprising means for requiring authentication to access said database.

41. The system of claim 29, wherein said identifier comprises an IP address.

42. The system of claim 29, further comprising means for determining a group to which said printing device belongs based on said identifier.

43. The method of claim 42, further comprising means for configuring said printing device according to settings specified for members of said group.

44. A controller readable medium having instructions thereon which, when executed, cause a printing device to:

- scan a print job for an identifier;
- obtain configuration settings associated with said identifier; and
- configure said printing device according to said configuration settings.

45. The medium of claim 44, wherein said instructions further cause said printing device to:

identify a location of a client device submitting said print job based on said identifier;  
and

obtain configuration settings associated with said location.